

fire, he landed his airplane, pulled the pilot aboard, and escaped despite the airplane he piloted being hit with multiple rounds. He is known as an outstanding, steady pilot. In 1967 President Lyndon B. Johnson presented him with the award. His "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty" was noted in his Medal of Honor citation.

Bernard Fisher joined the U.S. Navy and attended Boise State Junior College and the University of Utah before receiving a commission in the U.S. Air Force and serving as a fighter pilot. He married his wife Realla in 1948, and they had six sons. He went on to have a distinguished military career before retiring in Kuna, ID, as an Air Force colonel. Three of his sons and one grandson carried on his legacy of service in the Air Force.

In addition to his being known for his eminent military career, he is known as a loving husband, father, grandfather, generous friend, and committed member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. After his retirement from the military, he and Realla grew a number of crops, raised livestock, looked after their family, and were active members of the community. He served as a Boy Scout leader and mentored airmen at Mountain Home Air Force Base. Bernie and Realla also served as missionaries for the church.

Colonel Fisher truly lived the ideal of selfless service—risking his own life to save other lives. He inspired and encouraged others not only directly through his children, but also through the countless other servicemembers and Americans who have heard his story and have had the thought of dedicated service awakened in them. Bernie embodied great leadership. He led by example. I join his family, including his sons and their families, which include 33 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren, and his numerous friends in mourning his passing. His legacy will endure.●

TRIBUTE TO JAMIE MIDDLEBROOK

● Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and ultimate sacrifice of New Carlisle, IN, Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Middlebrook. Dedicated, loyal, and above all compassionate to those in need, Assistant Chief Middlebrook served with the New Carlisle Volunteer Fire Department for 22 years.

On Tuesday, August 5, 2014, Assistant Chief Middlebrook and firefighters from local fire departments battled a massive fire at an area business. While advancing a water hose inside the facility, the roof of the building collapsed on top of Middlebrook. Despite the best efforts of his fellow firefighters, EMTs, and medical personnel, Jamie Middlebrook, 41, succumbed to his injuries.

"He took me in, he taught me the right way to do things . . . He showed

me how to be strong, be brave, and be there in somebody's time of need," said New Carlisle Fire Chief Josh Schweizer of Assistant Chief Middlebrook.

A native of South Bend, IN, Jamie Middlebrook lived in the nearby town of New Carlisle. As the son of a firefighter, Middlebrook learned the importance of serving his community at an early age, and he possessed a servant heart. In addition to Middlebrook's service with the New Carlisle Fire Department, he was the assistant chief of the New Carlisle EMS. Never shying from the responsibility of serving his community, Middlebrook continued to work full time with the New Carlisle EMS even after being diagnosed with cancer.

"He'd been a paramedic so long that many elderly people in town knew him. They would request him by name on medical calls," said his mother, Carol Middlebrook.

Assistant Fire Chief Middlebrook is survived and deeply missed by his wife Julie, parents Robert and Carol Middlebrook, brother Brook Middlebrook, as well as other relatives, friends, the New Carlisle Volunteer Fire Department, the New Carlisle EMS family, and Hoosiers across the State.

Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Middlebrook loved his work, and he gave his life in service and protection of the citizens of Indiana. Although he would have never thought of himself as a hero, Middlebrook demonstrated his character daily by conducting himself with courage, bravery, compassion, honor, and integrity. Thus, he was a true American hero in his everyday life as an EMS worker, a firefighter, a husband, a son, and friend to so many—and in his final call to duty. Let us always remember and treasure the memory of this brave man and honor him for his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.●

TRIBUTE TO JACK ROSSI

● Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Jack Rossi, who is not only a truly remarkable West Virginian, but he is also one of my dearest friends and closest confidants. After tirelessly working his entire life, Jack has finally surrendered to a well-deserved retirement having stepped down as president of West Virginia's largest accounting and consulting firm, Arnett Foster Toothman, and as chairman of the Charleston Area Alliance, a multi-faceted economic, business and community development organization. But these prominent titles just breach the tip of the iceberg since Jack's story is based on a lifetime of accomplishments and a lifetime of service that ceaselessly has helped our great State of West Virginia thrive and prosper.

A native of the small town of Coalton in Randolph County, WV, just a few counties away from my hometown area in Marion County, Jack learned at an

early age the importance of hard work and embraced West Virginia's cultural practice of neighbors helping neighbors. As the son of an Italian coal miner who shared a roof with 13 siblings, Jack was no stranger to staying busy with chores and helping out around the neighborhood until he was old enough to work at Coalton's general store at the ripe age of 12. As he grew older and became intrigued by how to run a business, Jack watched the local accountant balance the store's numbers. Soon enough, Jack was finishing the accounting work himself until he set out to attain a higher education at West Virginia University, where it just so happened that our paths crossed.

I will never forget that day. I was hobbling down the hallway on crutches after I blew out my knee on the football field. Juggling books, bags and crutches on one leg, a fellow student approached me to offer assistance. His name was Jack. I will never forget his selfless act of kindness and how naturally it seemed for him to see a person in need and immediately want to help. But, as I learned quickly and throughout the years of a beautiful friendship, that is just who Jack is—amiable, loyal, and gracious.

We hear about lifetime achievers, but Jack is a lifetime giver. At every turn of the road, whether it be as a young boy, as an enthusiastic college student, a Vietnam veteran or as a professional, Jack has devoted his time and his efforts to helping others and helping his surrounding communities. Jack's unwavering dedication to the Mountain State, accompanied by his innovative vision, inspirational spirit, and savvy aptitude, have helped countless West Virginians, their businesses and our communities statewide.

Because of his passion, discipline, and staunch work ethic, everyone who meets Jack immediately recognizes his aptitude for success and knows he will work day and night until the job is done. His loyalty, trustworthiness and dedication know no bounds.

Jack has not only played the roles of accomplished certified public accountant and savvy business and community developer, but he is a devoted volunteer who has always spent his free time joining organizations that impact our local communities. He has served as president of the Charleston Chapter of CPAs, the WV Society of CPAs and the WV Board of Accountancy. He has supported his profession through service on numerous committees on statewide and national levels.

Jack spends countless hours each year in service to West Virginia State government. He currently serves on the West Virginia Board of Treasury Investments and the West Virginia Racing Commission.

And of course, never forgetting his Mountaineer roots, Jack currently also serves on the Board of Directors of the West Virginia University Alumni Association as Immediate Past Chairman.